貧乏姉妹物語

かずといずみ

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SUNDAY GX COMICS
毎月19日発売!!

貧乏姉妹物語 1

かずといずみ

SUNDAY GX COMICS ラインナップ

【新婚行脚記】P.に完＋染慶一……第1〜2巻
【変女で野獣】イダテンヒコ……第1〜2巻
【ジャジャ!!えのあきら……第1〜2巻
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【この花はわたしの花】藤島隆彦＋国樹由美……全2巻
【advent〜アベント〜】設樂有孝子……全2巻
【素晴らしい世界】浅野いにお……全2巻
【最華娘夜叉】広江礼威……全2巻
【シュック アップ】広江礼威……全3巻
【ひかりのまち】浅野いにお……全3巻
【ひかりの国】藤島隆彦……全3巻
【燃えよペン】藤本和彦……全3巻

SUNDAY GX COMICS

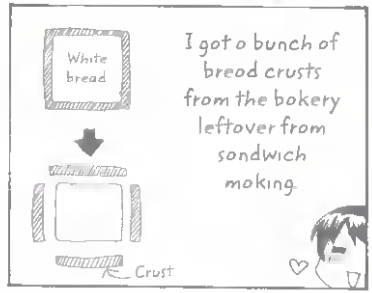
貧乏姉妹物語 1

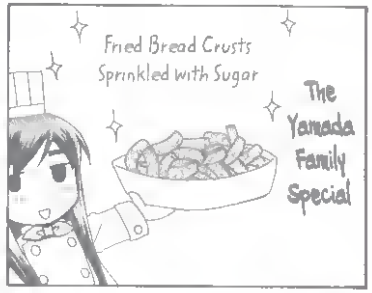
かずといずみ

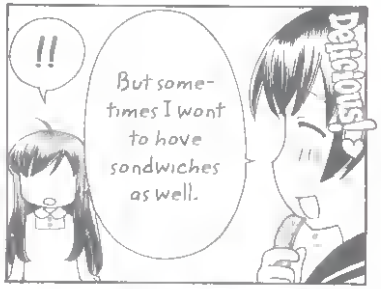
小学館

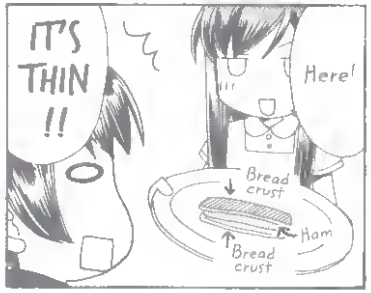
I'm so happy that bread crusts are free!

Free Things (1)

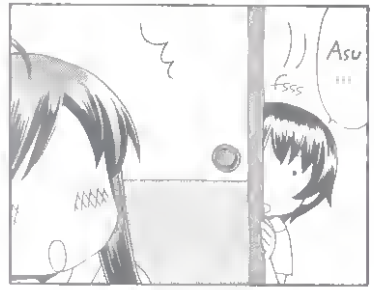


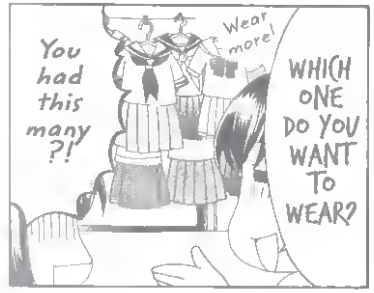






Free Things (2)





Still too early for a sailor uniform, no matter how much she loves it.

貧乏姉妹物語

1

かずといずみ

Translation
BOKE
Proofreading
CHOIKI
Scans & Lettering
NOMAD SOUL
kotonoha monkey-pirate com

Asu Yamada

9 years old. The younger sister of a hard worker. Always supports her big sister.

Kyo Yamada

15 years old. Hard working. Supports the family by newspaper delivery, etc.

S T O R Y

About this manga: The g[illegible]ing loving father rack[illegible]e
[illegible]eared. The mother [illegible] Kyo in
[illegible]nt
[illegible]e
[illegible]ow!

THE 1ST
OUR LOVELY HOME 5

THE 2ND
THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE WORLD 9

THE 3RD
MY BIG SISTER, THE WORRY WART 17

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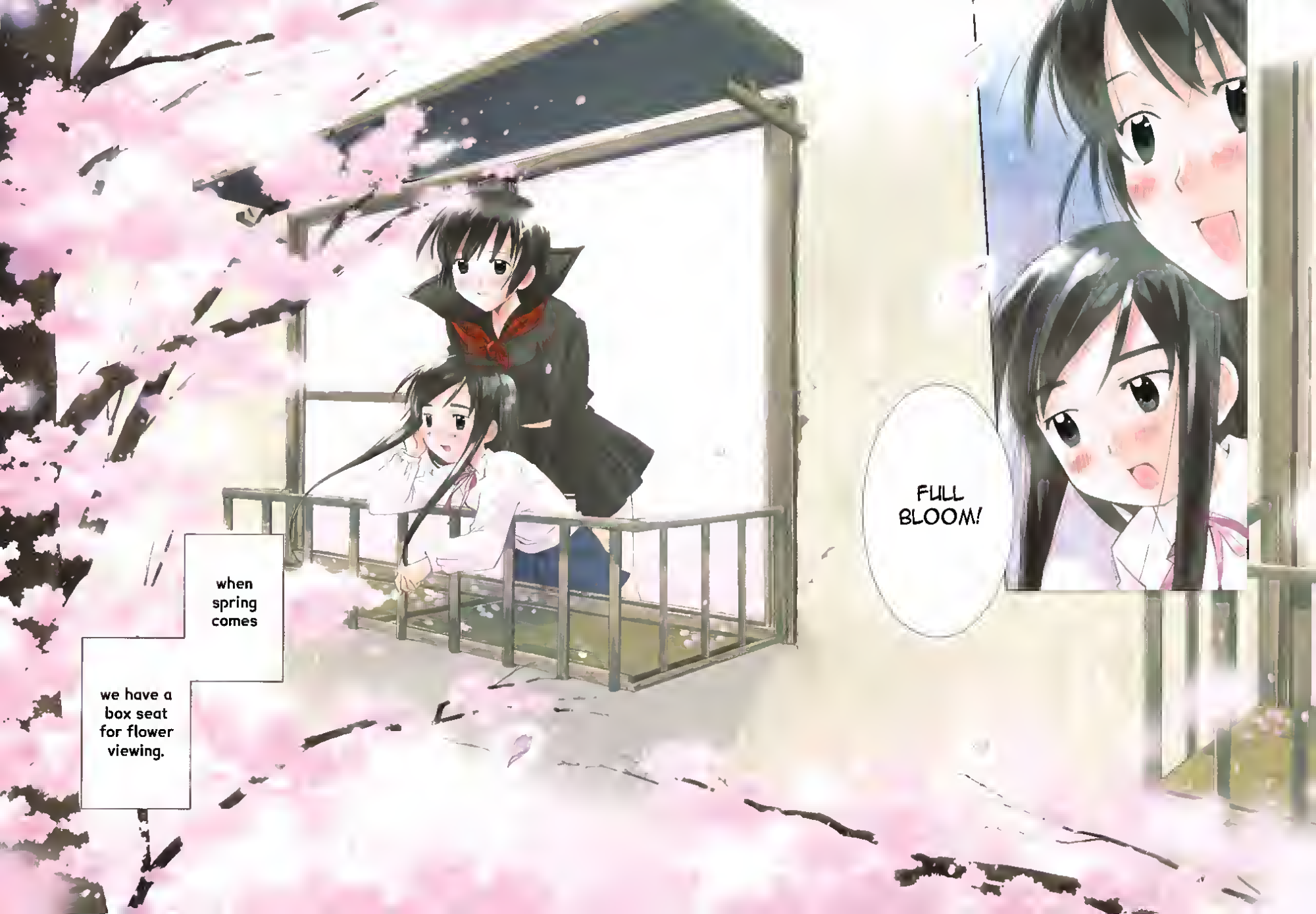
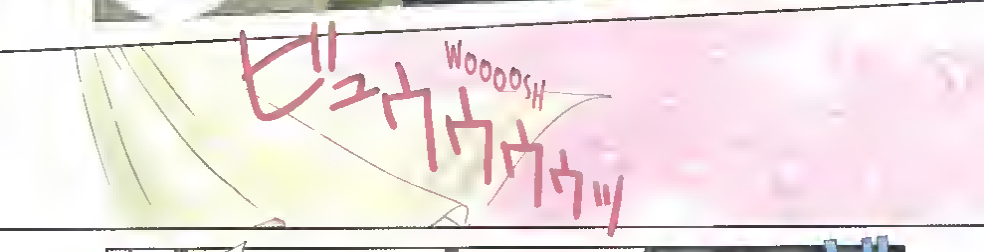
THE ONE WHO WAITS 145

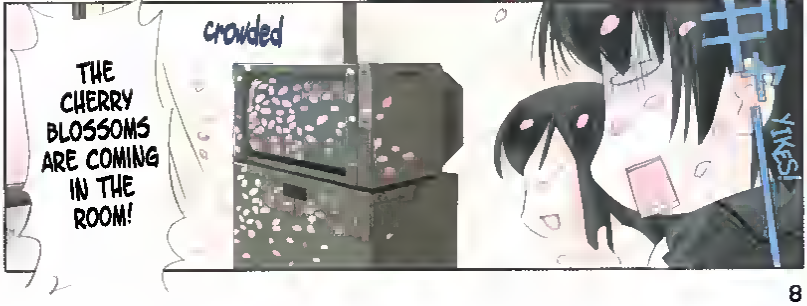
どよーん
GLOOMY
a beaten up 40-year-old apart-ment.
The place we live in is
OOPS!
PEOPLE STILL LIVE IN THAT OLD PLACE!
goodness
CRY
THE 1ST
OUR LOVELY HOME
RATTLE
But


when spring comes
we have a box seat for flower viewing.
FULL BLOOM!

OUR HOME IS NUMBER ONE!

The rent is 26,000 yen.
No bath. One room plus kitchen, but


WOOOOSH


THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE COMING IN THE ROOM!
crowded
YIKES!

THE 2ND
THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN THE WORLD
RRR...
11 12 1
click
CLICK
NNN
WHEW
I'LL BE BACK

Uh-huh!
GO BACK TO SLEEP!
YOU WON'T GROW IF YOU DON'T
No!!

I'M GOING TOO

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK
OK?
.....

2

Oh
TODAY SHE'S NOT FIGHTING IT..
I'LL BE BACK
Click

The year Asu was born.
Mother went to heaven.
Father lost big in gambling
Ran up debt Disappeared.
However,
us two still remain.
grab
WE CAN LIVE EVEN IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US! I'VE GOT TO WORK!

CHAK
Ok?
NEXT
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A BREAK ?
fssh
ASU ?!

I WANT TO WORK TOO!
YOU CAN'T BE HERE! GO HOME!
OH...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY, ASU

KYO
I'M GOING TO WORK MORE!
SPREAD
I'M GOING TO WORK EVEN HARDER, SO IT'LL BE OK!
THAT'S NOT IT

DON'T LEAVE ME
NOT LIKE FATHER DID
DON'T DISAPPEAR

OK
I UNDER-STAND
I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE FOR YOU
I WON'T GO ANYWHERE
THANK GOOD-NESS

7

BLUSH
THE SUNRISE... IS REALLY PRETTY, HM?
HUH?

WOW, IT IS...
IT WAS THIS PRETTY ALL ALONG, HUH?
THE TWO OF US,
TOGETHER.
YEAH!
LET'S HURRY UP AND FINISH DELIVERING THESE SO WE CAN GO HOME.

* Job Information

A few years ago, the law changed.
Now you have to graduate junior high to work the same as adults.
JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE
Hmph
For A

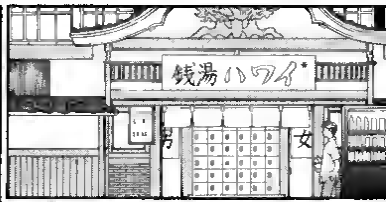
IF I BECOME AN IDOL, WE'LL MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!
WON-DERFUL!
BLUSH
WHY?!
BUT, NO
Y-YEAH, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
2
I'LL BECOME LONELY...
IF ASU BECOMES POPULAR
ANYWAY, IT'S NO!
?
?
Idol Audition!
Open audition for girls younger than 12!
You could be a star!
※Kyo's mental image

JANGLE
THE 4TH
A SECRET PLACE
IT'S GOING TO BE TIGHT THIS MONTH, TOO
• Household Account Book
The two of us have no parents.
WE'LL DO OUR BEST UNTIL PAYDAY!
YEAH
Asu Yamada, 9 years old (younger sister)
Kyo Yamada, 15 years old (older sister).
WE'VE GOT TO TIGHTEN OUR BELTS MORE.

Mother died when I was young.
Yo!
Father racked up debts and disappeared.
AS LONG AS I HAVE ASU
I'M HAPPY.
The two of us left have decided to live on our own, just the two of us
GOING OUT WITH THE FAMILY ON SUNDAY
MUST BE NICE...
2
IS THERE ANY PLACE YOU WANT TO GO TO?
Asu!
I'LL TAKE YOU.
WELL, NOT THIS MONTH.

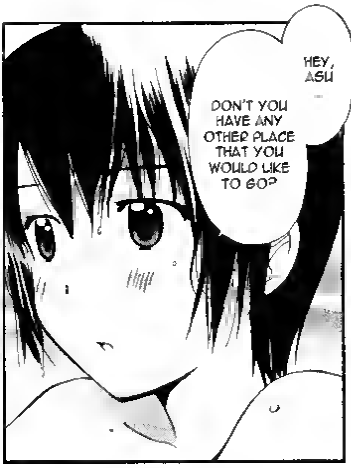
LIKE AN AMUSEMENT PARK OR THE ZOO?
Mmmh
ANYWHERE IS FINE
"ANY-WHERE IS FINE" ---?
SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY PLACE SHE WANTS TO GO TO?
A GIRL HER AGE SHOULD HAVE TONS OF PLACES SHE WANTS TO GO TO.
shock!
MAYBE I'VE TIGHTENED HER BELT A TOUCH TOO MUCH.
disappointed
3
LET'S GO TO HAWAII, AS ALWAYS
Wuu
HAWAII, HUH?
WELL THEN, LET'S GO RIGHT NOW!
RRST...

4



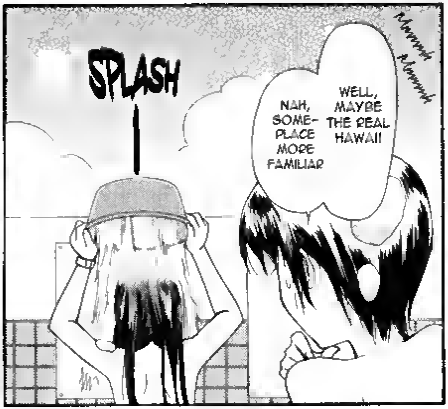
* Hawaii Public Bath

NOPE
Hey
WHAT ABOUT YOU?


HEY, ASU
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PLACE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO?

I CAN'T THINK OF ANY-THING
Mmmm
.....

WHETHER THE FAKE HAWAII
OR THE REAL HAWAII


SPLASH
Mmmmmm
WELL, MAYBE THE REAL HAWAII
NAH, SOME-PLACE MORE FAMILIAR

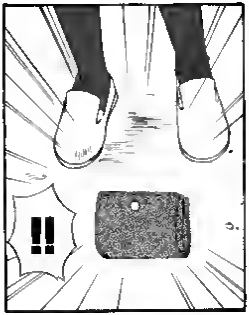
AS LONG AS I'M WITH YOU, KYO,
ANYPLACE IS FINE
ASU
LET'S GET SOME FRUIT-FLAVORED MILK!!
VOOP
ME TOO, ASU.
WHERE I WANT TO BE
IS BY YOUR SIDE.

ASU, LOOK, LOOK!
I'M HOME!
WELCOME BACK!
THE 5TH
A ONCE-A-MONTH PLEASURE
Our favorite day!
ta — da!
Pay Envelope
Kyo Yamada
My long awaited payday!
THERE'S ALMOST NOTHING LEFT!
exact
GAS WATER PUBLIC BATH
HERE'S THE POWER
HERE'S THE RENT
Big time!
LET'S GO OUT TO EAT TONIGHT!
NO WAY.
Eating out...
DINNER'S READY.

• Fried dish (e.g. potatoes, chicken)
KARA-AGE*1 (A FAVORITE)
THIS LOOKS SOOOO GOOD!
2
I always want to see her smile.
That's why
rustle rustle
Asu always has a smile for me.
BON APPÉTIT!

Asu Yamada, 9 years old.
BE CARE-FUL
Well then...
I'M OFF TO MAKE DELIVER-IES
Kyo Yamada, 15 years old.
The year 20XX. Downtown Tokyo
We are living in this town, just the two of us.
THE 6TH
GOOD LITTLE SISTER
I've got work delivering papers, but we're barely making it.
But, it's OK
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE ME OFF.
Father racked up debt and disappeared two years ago
Mother died when I was young

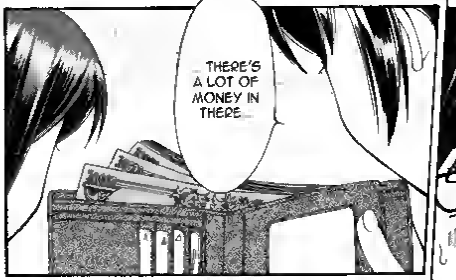
I'LL BE BACK SOON.
As long as we are together, we are happy.


!!

HM?

OOOKAY! LET'S START WORKING!

LET'S TAKE A LOOK
IS THERE SOMETHING WITH THE OWNER'S NAME OR ADDRESS ON IT?


THERE'S A LOT OF MONEY IN THERE...

SLAM!
I FOUND A WALLET IN FRONT OF THE APARTMENT!
ASUUU !!
?!

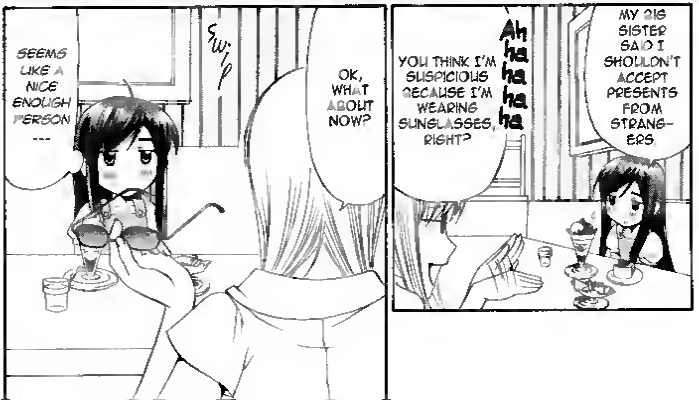
WITH THIS MUCH
WE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH FOR THIS MONTH'S RENT
AND GROCERIES AND YOUR FAVORITE CAKE!
WE COULD BUY CLOTHES FOR YOU, KYO.
YOUR CLOTHES COME FIRST, ASU
.....
shake shake
STOP IT! STOP IT!
shake shake

THE PERSON WHO DROPPED IT MUST BE MISSING IT
LET'S TAKE IT TO THE POLICE
YOU HAVE WORK, RIGHT, KYO? I'LL GO
WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT?
DON'T GO OFF WITH SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE!
WORRY WART.

PO-LICE-
PO-LICE-
AH, HEY LITTLE GIRL!
I DROPPED THAT WALLET. IT'S MINE
WILL YOU RETURN IT?
A SUS-PICIOUS PERSON ---!
IT'S TRUE-
I'M RANKO SAE-GUSA
MY ID IS IN THERE, RIGHT?
I'M GLAD I COULD FIND THE OWNER
LET ME THANK YOU!
COME!
YANK!
HEHE
SWEET-HEART, WHEN I TAKE A CLOSE LOOK, YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE, HM?

MY BELOVED PARFAIT,
SHORT CAKE AND PUDDING A LA MODE!
DON'T HOLD BACK EAT UP ♡
Denny's

WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T YOU LIKE SWEETS?
.....
GASP!
DON'T GO OFF WITH SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE!


SEEMS LIKE A NICE ENOUGH PERSON ---
SWIP
OK, WHAT ABOUT NOW?
YOU THINK I'M SUSPICIOUS BECAUSE I'M WEARING SUNGLASSES, RIGHT?
Ahhahahaha
MY BIG SISTER SAID I SHOULDN'T ACCEPT PRESENTS FROM STRANGERS

Um...
CAN I JUST TAKE THIS CAKE TO GO?
I WANT TO SHARE IT WITH MY SISTER

BON APPÉTIT!

YOU STILL WON'T EAT?
KYO WOULD WANT TO EAT CAKE TOO, I BET...

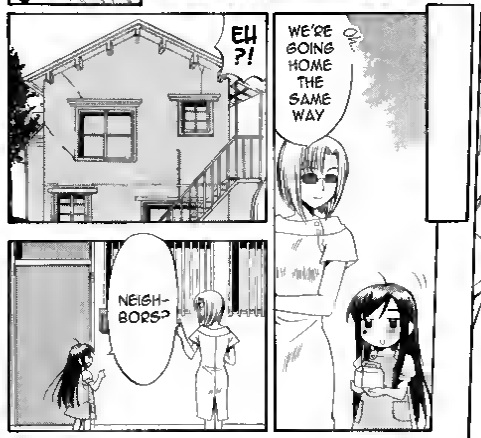
6

WE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH FOR YOUR FAVORITE CAKE!
shake
shake

ALL OF THIS? BY MYSELF?
ba-bump
ba-bump

JUST THE CAKE?
YOU SHOULD EAT IT ALL YOURSELF.
YOU CAN JUST KEEP IT A SECRET FROM YOUR SISTER.

IF I WERE MY BIG SISTER,
I'M SURE SHE WOULD DO THE SAME FOR ME
.....!


EH?!
WE'RE GOING HOME THE SAME WAY
Oh...
NEIGH-BORS?

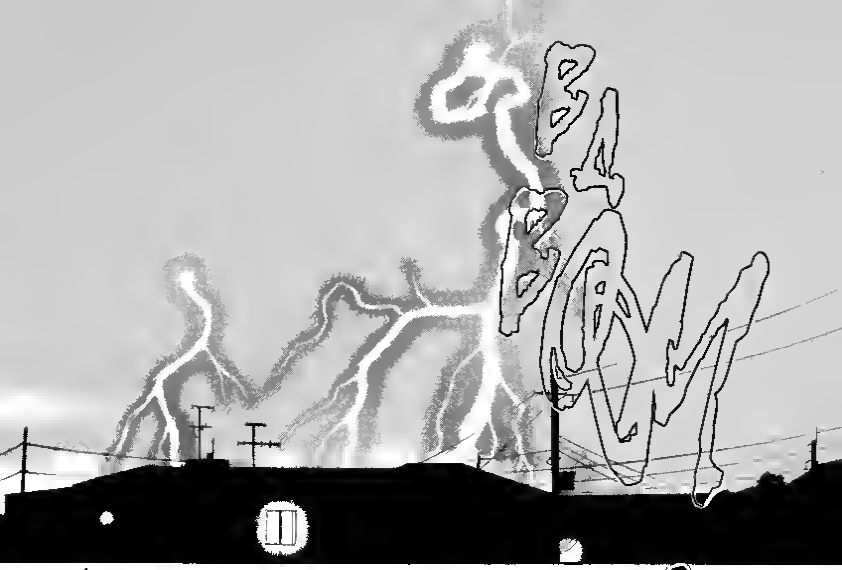
EXCUSE ME
CAN WE HAVE THIS CAKE TO GO?
YES

HE HE HE HE
YOU ARE PRETTY DARN CUTE, TOO!
HE HE HE
!?
LET'S BE FRIENDS FROM HERE ON OUT ♡
I'M ALWAYS WORKING AT NIGHT, SO I NEVER NOTICED
WHAT'S GOING ON, ASU?
WHO'S THIS PERSON?
SO YOU'RE THE BIG SISTER, HM?
YOU HAVE A GREAT LITTLE SISTER
?
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF JOB SHE HAS---
SILENCE...
But ...
The next time we saw our neighbor was a month later.

SHINING SUN!
WHITE CLOUDS!
BLUE SKIES!
1
THE 7TH
SUMMER WINDS
A ROOM WITHOUT AIR CONDITIONING!
The year 20XX. It's record breaking heat in downtown Tokyo.
chiiirp
SOOO HOOOT !!!
ch-ch-chiiirp
ch-chiiirp
chiiiiiiiiirp
chiiirp
chiiiiirp

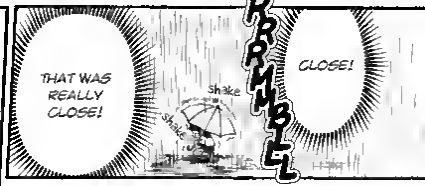
My name is Kyo Yamada.
pushed
chirrp ch-chirrp chirp chirp chirrp chirp
Mother died when I was young.
Father racked up debt and disappeared.
2
Now I'm living alone with my little sister, Asu.
I HATE SUMMER ---
Even if I stand on my head
there won't be money to buy an air conditioner..
sigh..
I'M FINE WITHOUT AIR CONDITIONING
Asu is just saying that to make me happy.
THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD BE FINE WITH THIS HEAT...
Hoooh!

BOOM
• Yamada
3-C
山田
drip
drip
IT'S RAINING
Really afraid of lightning
3
RRUMBLE
HANG ON, ASU!
I'M COMING RIGHT NOW!
BANG
KYO, I'M SCARED!
IF SHE'S OUTSIDE, I HOPE SHE'S FOUND SHELTER.
IS ASU STILL AT SCHOOL?
BA BUMP BA BUMP
BA BA BUMP BUMP


BA
BOOM

4

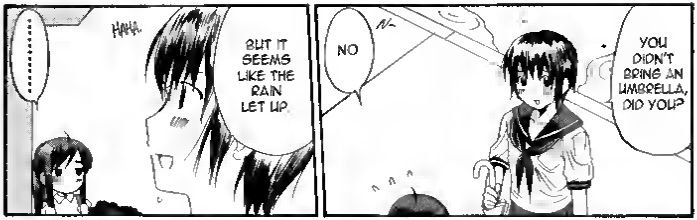
ASU MIGHT BE OK, EVEN IF I'M NOT THERE...
VSSSSSSS


THAT WAS REALLY CLOSE!
Shake
Shake
RRRHBL
CLOSE!

IF I WAIT A BIT, THE RAIN MAY LET UP.
I'VE HEARD THAT LIGHTNING SOMETIMES STRIKES UMBRELLAS.

WHAT AM I GONNA DO? I'M GONNA BE LATE.
Mean-while...
BUT THIS IS AN EVENING SHOWER. IT SHOULD STOP SOON.
ASU!

KYO?!


HAHA.
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THE RAIN LET UP.
NO
YOU DIDN'T BRING AN UMBRELLA, DID YOU?

THANK YOU, KYO!
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S SCARED OF LIGHT-NING,
SHE CAME TO GET ME.

Eeeek!
IT'S EMBAR-RASS-ING
WELL SINCE YOU BROUGHT IT,
LET'S USE THE UMBRELLA.
That evening, a slightly cool breeze blew

BOY
TODAY'S HOT TOO, HM?
THE 8TH
COOL BREEZE
?
So HOT!
Normally
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KYO? YOU'RE AWFULLY ENERGETIC TODAY

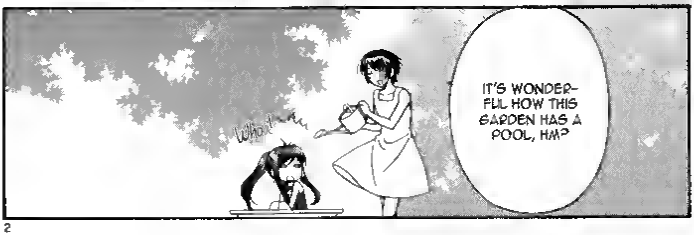
THIS WAY, IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW WET I GET!
I'M WEARING MY SWIMSUIT UNDER MY T-SHIRT!
SHE WAS COMPLAIN-ING END-LESSLY ABOUT IT THE TIMES BEFORE.
THE LANDLORD ASKED ME TO WET DOWN THE GROUNDS

I GOT REALLY WET THE OTHER DAY DURING THE EVENING SHOWER, AND IT WAS NICE AND COOL.
OH, I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU WEREN'T USING THE UMBRELLA.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
BA-DUMP
I CAN'T TELL HER I WAS SCARED OF BEING STRUCK BY LIGHT-NING...
THIS FEELS NICE
YOU SHOULD CHANGE TOO, ASU.
2
Playing with the water was fun,
but we got scolded by the land-lord.
bow bow
SPLASH

I'M SOOO SLEEEPY ...
tired...
Previously Unpublished Episode
Asu's Sleepless Nights

ASU, YOU OK?
I CAN'T SLEEP AT NIGHT SINCE IT'S SO HOT...
HOW CAN WE COOL OFF...
AH! LET'S GO TO THE POOL!
POOL?
NOOP!

KYO, ISN'T THIS CALLED A TUB?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
.....
PLASH


IT'S WONDERFUL HOW THIS GARDEN HAS A POOL, HM?

2

WOOP!
THE LANDLORD'S GONNA GET ANGRY AT US AGAIN!
Srush
Srush
AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, LET'S WASH YOUR HAIR.

NOW YOU'RE NICE AND CLEAN
LET'S GIVE YOU A BATH, TOO!
MY, MY, YOU TWO!
WIPE
WIPE
WOOF
WOOF
WHY IS HE SO DIRTY?
IT'S MRS OKUDA'S DOG
pant
pant
500
HERE, YOUR PAYMENT!
THANK YOU FOR WASHING MY DOG!
3
WOOSH!!
All right!
WITH THIS MONEY
IT'S OK
HOHOHO
BUT ALL WE DID WAS WASH HIM ARE YOU SURE?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

LET'S GO TO THE POOL FOR REAL!
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SLEEP COOL TONIGHT!
YEAH!

SNORE
SNORE
6
STUCK LIKE GLUE
snore
snore
Her lack of sleep continued ...
waddle waddle

Kyo Yamada, 15 years old.
KYO, THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL IS GOING TO START
Asu Yamada, 9 years old
WAIT, WAIT!
Mother passed away.
Father racked up debt and disappeared.
The two of us live alone.
We're poor,
but as long as we're together, we're happy!
THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN, THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL!
THE 9TH
FIREWORKS FOR THE TWO OF THEM

I CAN HAVE ALL SORTS OF FUN WITH KYO.
I'VE BEEN SAVING FOR THIS DAY LITTLE BY LITTLE IN MY PIGGY-BANK.
Piggy-bank
Shake
Shake
Shake

I DON'T WANT IT...

I HAVE THIS YUKATA INHERITED FROM MOM.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE ONE, RIGHT ASU?

I'VE WANTED TO GIVE YOU ONE FOR A WHILE!

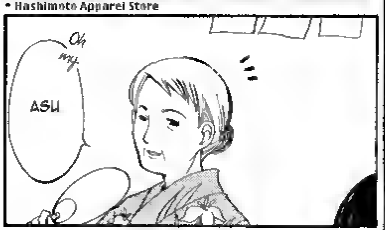
THAT'S RIGHT.
NOW HURRY UP AND PUT IT ON. ♡

NO WAY... YOU USED MY PIGGY-BANK MONEY TO BUY THIS?

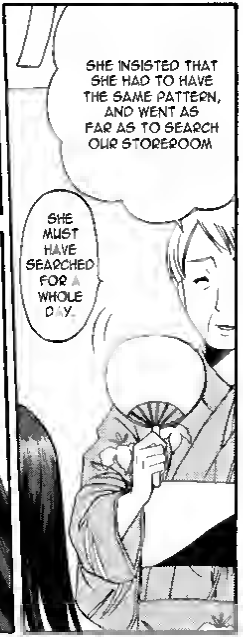
WE CAN SAVE UP MORE MONEY
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HAPPY
!
WHY? I BOUGHT IT FOR YOU, ASU
!!!
WHY DID YOU USE MY MONEY WITHOUT ASKING?
4
I'M NOT GOING
WE HAVE IT NOW, SO PUT ON YOUR YUKATA AND LET'S GO!
I'M SORRY FOR USING IT WITHOUT ASKING, BUT
Come on!
I'VE BEEN SCRIMPING AND SAVING THAT MONEY LITTLE BY LITTLE
I WANTED TO USE IT TOGETHER AT THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL.

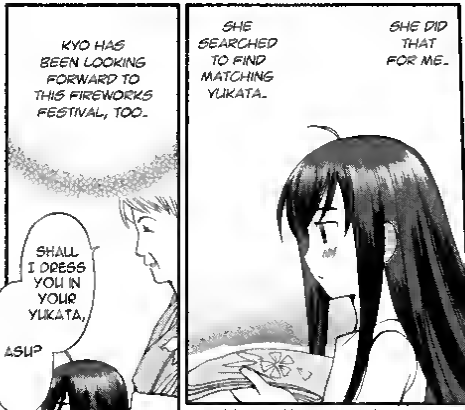
I'M NOT GOING TO THE FIRE-WORKS FESTIVAL!
YOU STUPID SISTER !!
ASU—?!
YOU STUPID SISTER !!
STUPID SISTER !!
STUPID !!

* Hashimoto Apparel Store



I'VE WANTED TO GIVE YOU ONE FOR A WHILE!
CUTE!
NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WEAR THE SAME YUKATA.
SHE SEEMED TO HAVE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS A SHAME THAT YOU TWO

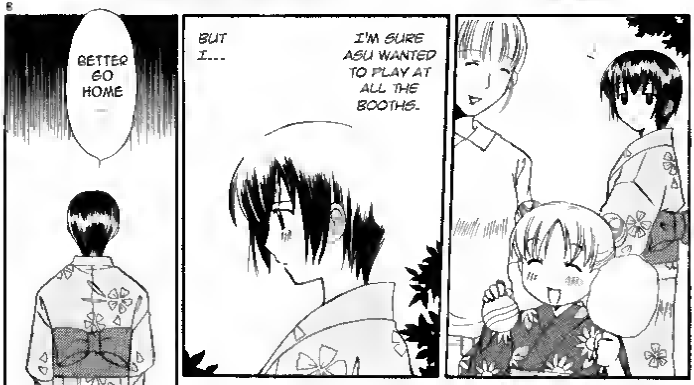

SHE INSISTED THAT SHE HAD TO HAVE THE SAME PATTERN, AND WENT AS FAR AS TO SEARCH OUR STOREROOM
SHE MUST HAVE SEARCHED FOR A WHOLE DAY.


KYO HAS BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS FIREWORKS FESTIVAL, TOO.
SHALL I DRESS YOU IN YOUR YUKATA,
ASU?
SHE SEARCHED TO FIND MATCHING YUKATA.
SHE DID THAT FOR ME.

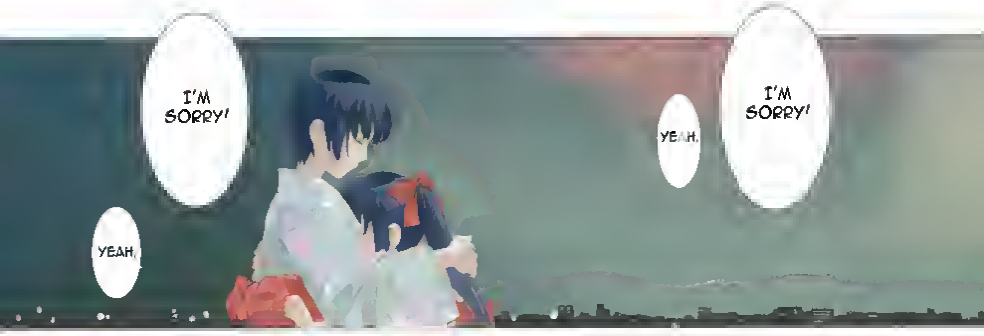
Note: Yukata, and kimono in particular, are complicated garments. Most Japanese women cannot put them on by themselves

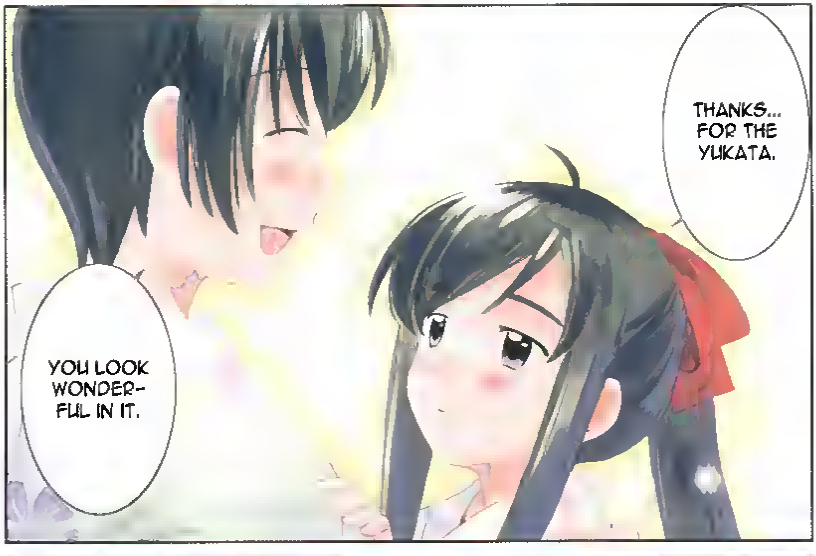
WOW!
THERE'S A BURST
AND A KEY-SHAPE
BOOM
BANG
BOOM

IT'S MEANING-LESS TO BE HERE BY MYSELF.
Sigh..
ASU AND I HAVE SEEN THE FIRE-WORKS FESTIVAL TOGETHER EVERY YEAR...


BETTER GO HOME
BUT I...
I'M SURE ASU WANTED TO PLAY AT ALL THE BOOTHS.

バター
特製
いそべ
EXCUSE ME
SORRY!
LET ME THROUGH!
THE FIRE-WORKS
ARE GOING TO END!
WITH KYO THIS YEAR, TOO!
I WANT TO SEE THEM
KYO!
WAIT!

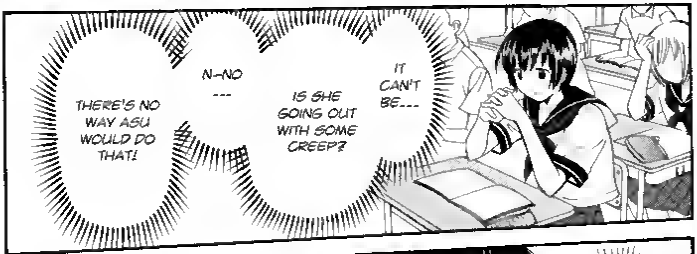

I'M SORRY!
YEAH.
YEAH.
I'M SORRY!


THANKS... FOR THE YUKATA.
YOU LOOK WONDER-FUL IN IT.

THE FIRE-WORKS ARE OVER...
LET'S COME SEE THEM NEXT YEAR.
THE YEAR AFTER THAT TOO, AND THE YEAR AFTER THAT AS WELL, TOGETHER.

I'M HOME
YOU'RE LATE.
Uh, yeah.
I STOPPED BY THE SHOPPING STREET
SHE SMELLS OF TOBACCO ---
Sniff
THERE'S ONE MORE DISH THAN USUAL---
Recently,
my younger sister has been acting weird
Huff
THE 10TH SECRET

I'M GOING
OH
KYO
I'LL BE A LITTLE LATE TONIGHT
I'LL MAKE DINNER, SO PLEASE WAIT
OK
AGAIN ---?


IT CAN'T BE---
IS SHE GOING OUT WITH SOME CREEP?
N-NO ---
THERE'S NO WAY ASU WOULD DO THAT!

2

THAT'S RIGHT,
I'LL TRUST IN ASU!

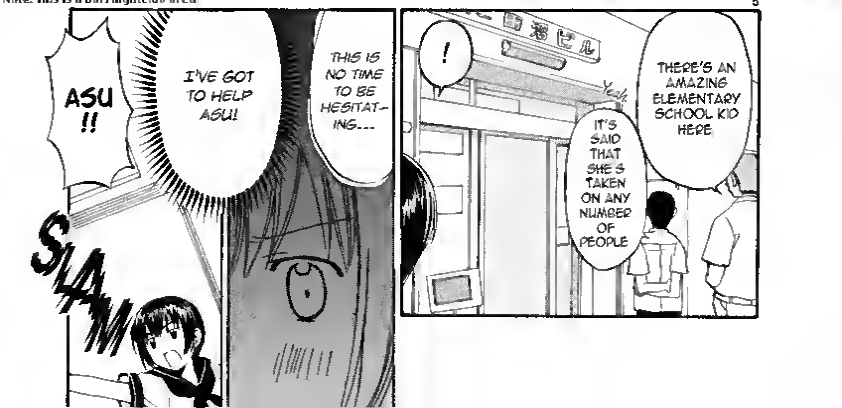
2-18
I'M WORRIED, AFTER ALL..
I TRUST HER, BUT ---
SNEAK
SHE'S GONE TO THE SHOPPING STREET..
I SEE
I SEE
SHE WOULDN'T BE ONE TO LIE..
SNEAK SNEAK

WHA ---?!
SWISH
THEY'RE TOO FRIENDLY! DON'T TOUCH HER!
ONE MORE HAS ARRIVED ---
AN ACQUAIN-TANCE?
OH... SHE'S SPEAKING WITH SOMEONE..

GASP!
ASU!
SHE'S GONE ---
SHE WENT INTO ONE OF THOSE BUILDINGS.
4
EXCUSE ME! HAS A GRADE SCHOOL GIRL COME IN HERE?!
I DON'T KNOW
EX-CUSE ME
DUNNO
EXCUSE ME!
WHAT?
ASU... PLEASE BE SAFE!

TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS KINDA THING
HA HA HA...
MAN
THESE YOUNG GIRLS ARE AMAZING NOWADAYS
SHO
OOM
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I CAN'T PRESS ON IN THIS DANGEROUS AREA!

Note: This is a bar/nightclub area

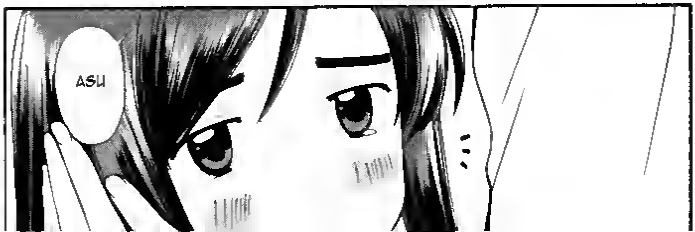

ASU !!
I'VE GOT TO HELP ASU!
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE HESITAT-INGS...
SLAM
!
THERE'S AN AMAZING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID HERE
IT'S SAID THAT SHE'S TAKEN ON ANY NUMBER OF PEOPLE

* In Mahjong Ron is similar to checkmate in chess

WOW!
FIRST PLACE IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER MAHJONG TOURNAMENT GOES TO ASU YAMADA!
THE FIRST PLACE PRIZE IS A MONTH'S SUPPLY OF CROQUETTES.
TOURNA-MENT? SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER?

SIIIIGHS
I'M SO RELIEVED, MY LEGS ARE GIVING OUT.
WORN OUT
KYO, ARE YOU OK?
ASU REALLY IS GOOD AND WON FAIRLY
EVEN THOUGH SHE SAYS GAMBLING, WE'RE NOT GETTING MONEY OR ANYTHING IT'S JUST FOR FUN
ASU'S NOT AT FAULT
PLEASE DON'T GET MAD, MISS
THESE PEOPLE LIKE ASU ---
SORRY ABOUT THAT
WE OURSELVES WERE GLAD THAT SHE CAME HERE TO KEEP US SENIORS COMPANY...

Uuh
I'M S-SORRY
DO YOU KNOW HOW WORRIED I WAS ABOUT YOU?!
I'M NOT OK!


ASU

IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US SISTERS
LET'S NOT HAVE SECRETS, OK?
GETTING MAD. CRYING.

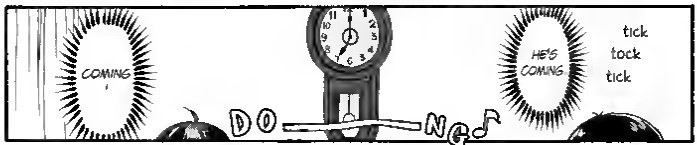
IT'S ALL BECAUSE I LOVE YOU!
OK!
WORRYING ABOUT YOU.
As your guardian!
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO COME WITH YOU NEXT TIME.

* First Prize

Sssshh
Clop
Clop
Clop
Sssshh
the scary monster comes.
The 30th of every month at 7 p.m.
1
DING DONG
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO...?
DON'T WORRY! LEAVE IT TO YOUR SISTER!
DING DONG DING DONG
THE 11TH
GENZO HAYASHI, 78 YEARS OLD
Aaaaah!
The landlord always comes at this time...
PAY THE RENT!
KLAK
WOOM

IF WE PAY THE RENT TODAY, NEXT MONTH'S FINANCES ARE LOOKING GRIM...
BUT I BET HE WON'T GIVE US EXTRA TIME...
家計簿
The next month
tick
tock

• Household Account Book

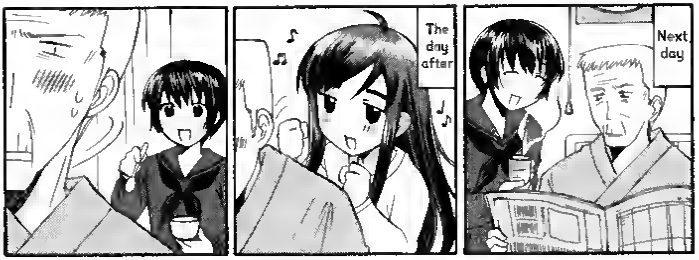


2

THE LANDLORD'S IN THE HOSPITAL ?!
ラーメ
八百市
WOULD YOU TAKE THIS TO HIM?
I can't leave the store.
HUH?!
I'M NOT SURE OF THE DETAILS, BUT MR HAYASHI'S GOTTEN OLD, AFTER ALL.
Don't know
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
YEAH, HE FELL FROM SOME-PLACE AND BROKE A BONE, I HEARD
IS HE OK?

KYO
OK
...!
NO ONE HAS GONE TO SEE HIM, IT SEEMS

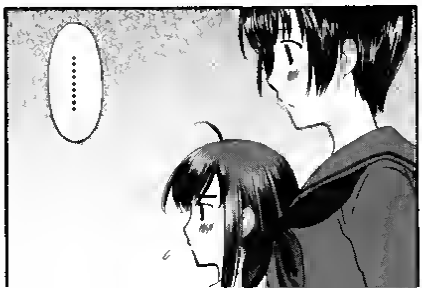
MR HAYASHI WE CAME TO SEE YOU
UWAH... BAD MOOD!
GRIMACE
ARE YOU OK?
DO I LOOK OK?
UGH!
fret
I
AND I CAN'T SMOKE IT'S HORRIBLE!
THEY SUBJECT ME TO TESTS,
4
YEAH
HE SEEMS OK, HUH?
!
CAN'T YOU HURRY UP AND PEEL AN APPLE FOR ME OR SOMETHING?

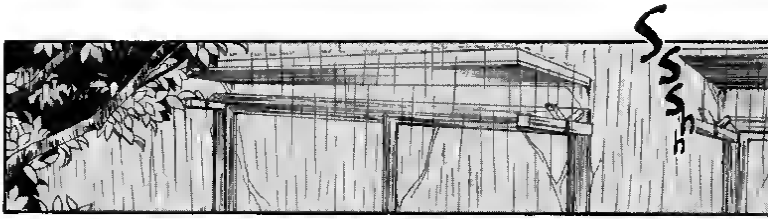

The day after
Next day

……
IT MUST BE A BOTHER, COMING EVERYDAY
YOU TWO ARE OFTEN HERE, HM?

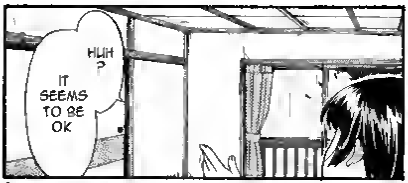
I'M TELLING YOU NOT TO COME!

MR HAYASHI, SOME FLOWERS
YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME ANYMORE
HUH?


……


Sssh

Ah!
WE HAVE TO GET READY FOR THE LEAKY ROOF!
ASU, GET THE DISHES!


HUH?
IT SEEMS TO BE OK

WERE WE A BOTHER?

This is great!
I WONDER IF SOMEONE FIXED IT?
Gasp...

IT MUST BE A BOTHER, COMING EVERYDAY
... YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME ANYMORE.
ON ACCOUNT OF US ---?
HE FELL FROM SOMEPLACE AND BROKE A BONE, I HEARD
NO WAY..
7
KYO, I SAW IT.
?
MR. HAYASHI WAS GETTING HIMSELF READY FOR OUR VISITS
HEHE

MR. HAYASHI!
!
WHAT THE! I TOLD YOU TWO NOT TO COME!
HEHEHE
THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME
PLEASE GET WELL SOON
AND COME BACK TO THE APARTMENT!
Mumble
T-
THANKS
WHEN I GET BACK
I forgot
PAY THE RENT!
GAH!

Hmmmm
THIS OUTFIT ISN'T ANY GOOD EITHER
FLOMP
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KYO?
GETTING OUT ALL THOSE CLOTHES AND STUFF...
WHIP
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
THERE'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT COMING UP, AND I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WEAR...

HUH?!
YOUR OPEN HOUSE AT SCHOOL! ♡
THE 12TH
JUST AS YOU ARE...

2

IT'S A SCHOOL DAY! YOU HAVE SCHOOL TOO!
That's not it
AH, THAT'S RIGHT
SHOCK!!
YOU DON'T WANT ME TO COME?!
KYO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME
Um
BUT THIS YEAR I'M GOING TO MAKE IT!
YOU NEVER TELL ME WHEN IT IS, SO I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO GO

Or is it because she'd be embarrassed to have a junior high student come?
Is it really because I have school?
ANYWAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME!
BUT ---
Other kids will have their mom and dad come
Sigh—

chatter chatter
6 years ago
chatter chatter

MY DAD IS COMING!
Oh!
MY MOM IS HERE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KYO?

DAD HASN'T COME YET.
But my father promised to come, so I wasn't upset.
Back then, my mother had already gone to heaven
EVERY-ONE STAND BOW.
DING DONG DING DONG
4
But he didn't come.
HE STILL HASN'T COME ---
WHO KNOWS WHAT TIME IT IS?
ME
MEE
ME
HE'LL BE HERE!
HE'S JUST RUNNING LATE...

I DON'T WANT ASU TO FEEL THE SAME WAY.
I WAS JEALOUS OF EVERYONE ELSE...

I DON'T HAVE ANY NICE CLOTHES.
Sigh...
I want to look the part
Because I'm taking the place of our mom.

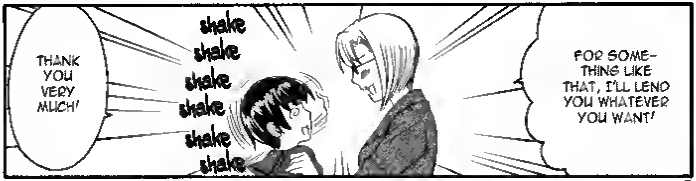
5

DING DONG
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
THE LADY NEXT DOOR MIGHT HAVE A SUIT.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT!
Bingo!
Neighbor

Oh dear...
IF IT ISN'T MY CUTE GIRL KYO!
WAIT A SEC, OK?
WHAT?
POP!
SHE LOOKS REALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST TIME WE SAW HER...
Good evening...
I'M YAMADA FROM NEXT DOOR
IF YOU HAVE A SUIT,
MIGHT I BORROW IT?
UM...
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK
A SUIT? I HAVE ONE, BUT WHAT DO YOU NEED IT FOR?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

I WANT TO ATTEND MY SISTER'S OPEN HOUSE IN NICE CLOTHING
PLEASE!

...!


THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
shake shake shake shake shake shake
FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I'LL LEND YOU WHATEVER YOU WANT!

SOMETHING REALLY PINK NO, BLUE?
WILL THIS REALLY BE OK?
ho ho ho ho ho ho ho ho

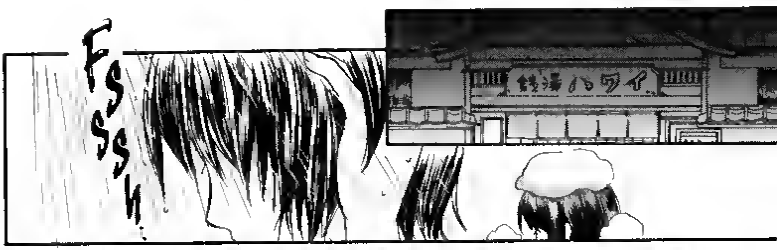
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
IF IT'S AN OPEN HOUSE, THEN YOU SHOULDN'T WEAR SOMETHING TOO FLASHY

COME IN!
WEEEEE

WHIP!
WHAP!
SPRUCE
W-WOW!
THIS SHOULD DO IT, I THINK
8
I'LL RETURN THE SUIT AFTER I HAVE IT CLEANED
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I'll dress you up tomorrow too!
AND FINISHED!
AND THEN A TOUCH OF PERFUME
Spritz

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, KYO?
.....
I BORROWED IT FROM THE NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR
Perfume
cough cough
YOU HAVE MAKE-UP ON, TOO?
LIKE THIS, I CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF MOTHER!

KYO,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE
ASU
I'M NOT GOING OUT OF MY WAY
AH!
NO GOOD! THE PUBLIC BATH IS GONNA CLOSE!
KYO, LET'S GO TAKE A BATH!
Y-YEAH


Fsssh...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE...
AM I NOT GOOD ENOUGH ...?

11

WOOO—
S'gh...
I'M BACK TO MY NORMAL FACE.
BOF!
sniff sniff sniff
?

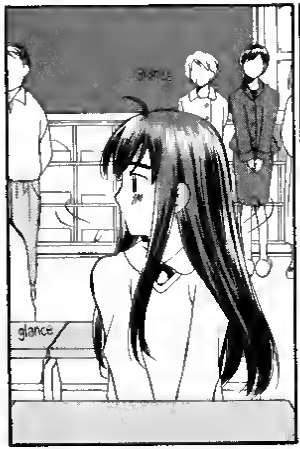
SNIFF
SNIFF
HUH ?

YOU'RE NOT TAKING THE PLACE OF MOTHER OR ANYONE ELSE

YOU SMELL LIKE USUAL, KYO!
I'M SO GLAD!

BECAUSE YOU ARE YOU, KYO
STAY JUST AS YOU ARE

I UNDER-STAND
OK


glance

CHATTER
CHATTER

Next day

13

THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD SHOW UP.
HUH?

Oh!
ASU, WHO ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?
UH-UH, IT'S NOT THAT

LET'S BEGIN CLASS
Ding Dong
Ding Dong

RATTLE
A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT?
!
IF ASU WANTS ME TO BE MYSELF...

OK, MS YAMADA, LET'S HAVE YOU READ FROM PAGE 94.
FWP
SHE'S GOT NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.

新国語
新国語
I'M WATCHING OVER YOU!

WHAT?!
I LEFT EARLY
WHAT HAPPENED WITH YOUR SCHOOL?
16
I KNEW IT!
Oh..
I... REALLY WANTED YOU TO COME!
THANK YOU
That's a little...
What? What?
WHY NOT?!
OK, SO I'M GOING TO GO TO YOUR SCHOOL'S OPEN HOUSE, KYO!

Woooa!
THAT'S A BIG CHRIST-MAS TREE!
THE 13TH CHRISTMAS PRESENT
I WANT A TREE LIKE THIS!
Kyo Yamoda, 15 yeors old
IT WOULDN'T FIT IN OUR APARTMENT
Asu Yamoda, 9 years old
Ahahaha
YOU'RE RIGHT
Once more Christmas has come up on the two of us.

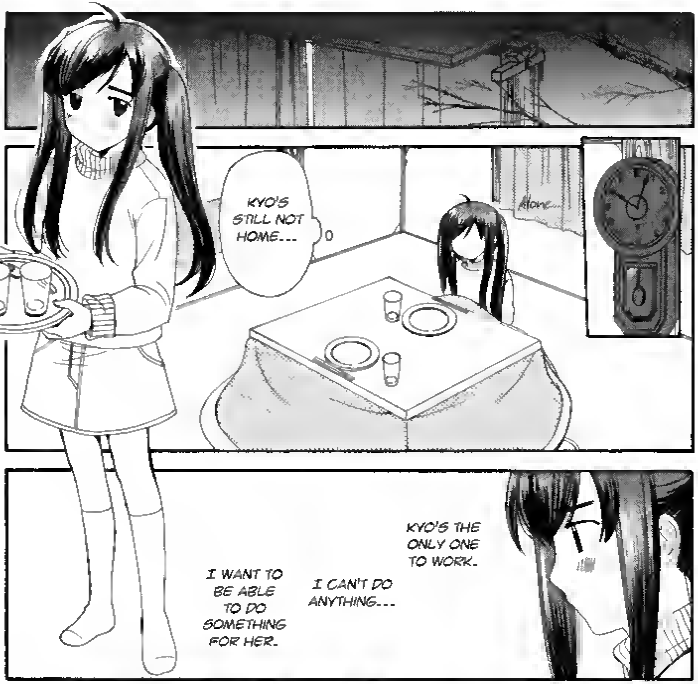
YEAH...
Mother passed away.
Father disappeared three years ago.
We are living, just the twa af us.
Life is hard, but we're OK
As long as we have each other, we're happy
LET'S HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS, OK?
THE 13TH
CHRISTMAS PRESENT

TA DAH!
LOOK! LOOK, ASU! ♡
I HAVE PART-TIME WORK ON THE 24TH AND 25TH!
WOW! WHAT'S WITH THAT?
3
WHAT?
.....
UH-UH, NOTHING.
Big time!
LET'S HAVE A CHRIST-MAS PARTY THIS YEAR TOO!
I'LL BRING HOME CHICKEN AND CAKE ON THE 25TH, OKAY?
UM...
KYO...
Delivers newspapers in the morning and afternoon.
FROM 3 TO 7, I'M WORKING AT A CHICKEN RESTAURANT, AND FROM 7 TO 10 AT A CAKE SHOP.

HOW ABOUT SOME ROAST CHICKEN?
It's delicious!
24th
クリスマスフェア
AH, ONE PLEASE
OK!
THANK YOU!
FIVE PIECES OF THIGH PLEASE
OK!
4
BUSY!
CAN YOU HURRY IT UP?
YES!
HOW ABOUT SOME CAKE?
THEY'RE HAND-MADE!
I'LL HAVE THE CAKE #5 WITH CREAM DECORATION, THE BÛCHE DE NOËL AND THE ICE CREAM CAKE #7, PLEASE
THIS IS TOUGH TOO!
RIGHT AWAY !!
PLEASE COME TAKE A LOOK!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

S-SO TIRED---
THUD
I'M HOME
KYO, ARE YOU OK?
.....
stuttering
I'M OK! I'M OK!
Ha ha ha
I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST TOMORROW TOO!
OK...?
THUD
SHE FELL ASLEEP ---

SHE'S REALLY GOING TO BE HAPPY...
HOW ABOUT A CAKE?
25th
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORK BOTH DAYS
IT'S OK!
IT'S SO I CAN HAVE A CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH ASU!
COME TAKE A LOOK!
THREE MORE HOURS UNTIL MY JOB IS FINISHED!
ONE MORE HOUR.
ASU ---
TWO MORE HOURS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!


KYO'S STILL NOT HOME...
Alone...
KYO'S THE ONLY ONE TO WORK.
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING FOR HER.
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING...

I'LL GIVE HER A CHRISTMAS TREE!
I GOT IT!
I WANT A TREE LIKE THIS!
I HAVE TO GET TO THE STORE BEFORE IT CLOSES!
SLAM!!
Oh..!

Shock!!!
SO EXPENSIVE!
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? I CAN'T BUY ANYTHING ...
I WANT TO SEE KYO...
OH!
I FOUND IT!
Dash!!
KYO'S PRESENT!

I'M HOME!
CLICK!
LET'S START THE PARTY!
AND I CAN USE THIS COSTUME UNTIL TOMORROW, TOO!
part
part
BUT I GOT A LOT OF FREE FOOD FROM THE LADY AT THE CHICKEN RESTAURANT!
I'm so tired!
ASU...?
Huh ...?
Went shopping Home soon
WHERE COULD SHE HAVE GONE?
WHAT COULD SHE BE BUYING AT THIS TIME?

IT'S LATE...
SHOULD I GO LOOK FOR HER?

I GUESS WE REALLY NEED TO GET CELL PHONES.
Aaaaah
BUT IF WE END UP PASSING EACH OTHER BY, IT'LL BE BAD...

Alone.
I GUESS I'M HAVING CHRIST-MAS ALONE AFTER ALL...
GASP!

tick
tock
tick
tock
tick
tock

ASU HAS BEEN WAITING ALONE ALL THIS TIME---
LAST YEAR TOO,
AND THE YEAR BEFORE THAT.
MORE THAN HAVING A PARTY,
I BET SHE JUST WANTED TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER.
11
I'M SORRY, ASU. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING AT ALL---
I'LL GO LOOK FOR HER!
CLACK

ASU?!
KYO!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?!
ER, NO
Squeeze!
I'M SORRY!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFE...!
?

Um, hey
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU!
LET'S GO!
WHAAT?!
Oof

click
WE CAN GO UP USING THE BACK STAIRS
THIS WAY!
IT'S HERE?
YEP!
YOU CAN'T MEAN TO CLIMB ALL THOSE STAIRS...

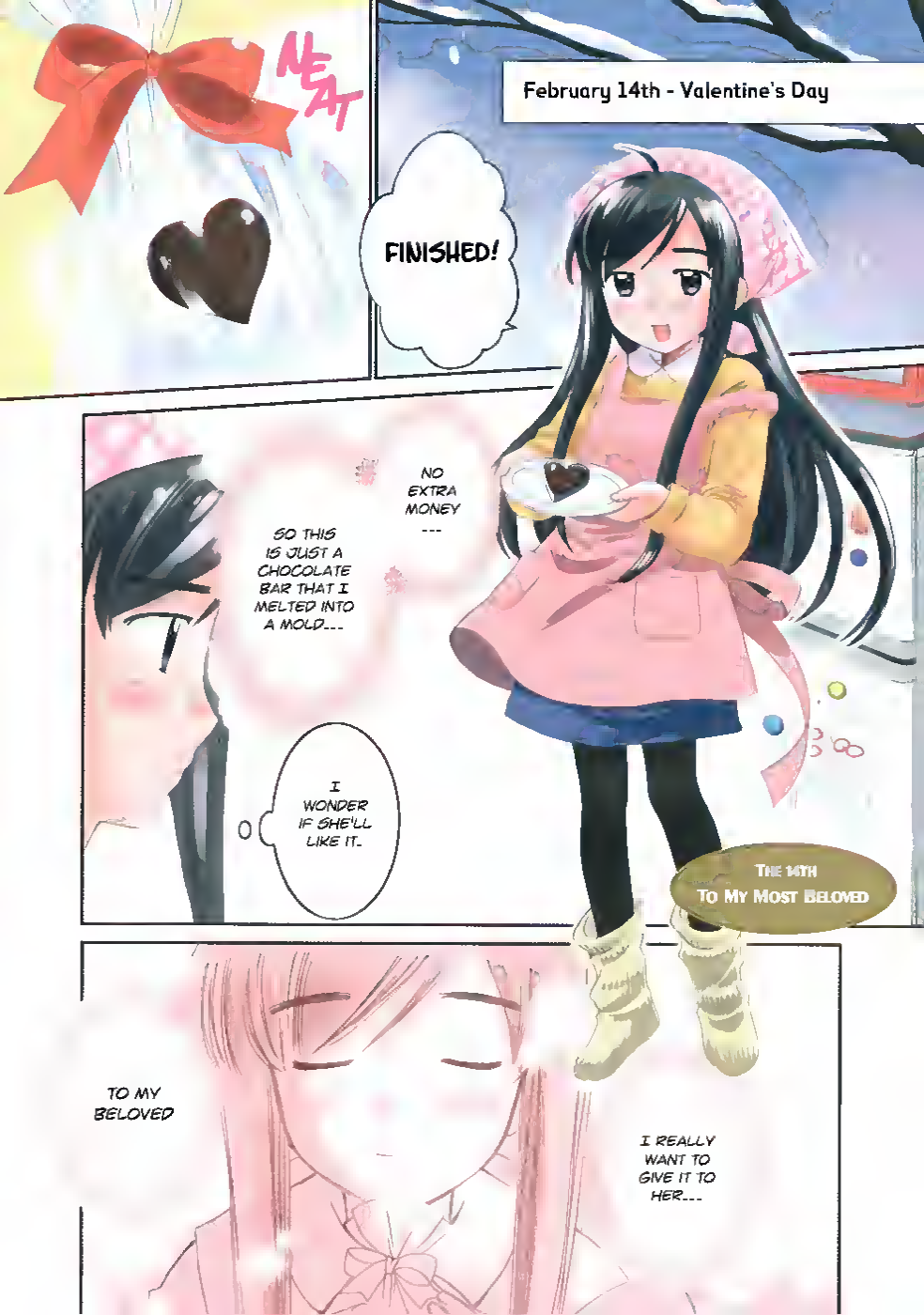
wheeze
ASU'S GOT A PRESENT FOR ME AT THE TOP.
huff
huff
12
1
I'VE GOT TO RECEIVE IT
wheeze
wheeze
BEFORE CHRIST-MAS IS OVER!
I'M POOPED OUT FROM MY JOB, BUT
WE'RE THERE!

PRETTY

IT'S LIKE A BIG CHRISTMAS TREE...!
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ME!

I COULD ONLY GET YOU A PRESENT LIKE THIS
NO ...
THANK YOU!
I HAD WANTED A CHRISTMAS TREE!

NEXT CHRIST-MAS, LET'S SPEND THE ENTIRE TIME TOGETHER.
REALLY ?!


NEAT
February 14th - Valentine's Day
FINISHED!
NO EXTRA MONEY ---
SO THIS IS JUST A CHOCOLATE BAR THAT I MELTED INTO A MOLD...
I WONDER IF SHE'LL LIKE IT.
THE 14TH
TO MY MOST BELOVED
TO MY BELOVED
I REALLY WANT TO GIVE IT TO HER...

THE 14TH
TO MY MOST BELOVED
SISTER!

My name is Asu Yamada.
I'm in the third grade.
GLANCE
IT'S HALF PAST THREE ALREADY.
My mother passed away right after I was born.
My father racked up a big debt three years ago and disappeared.
I have been living alone with my sister Kyo ever since.
GLOMP
IT'LL BE OK!
LEAVE IT TO YOUR BIG SIS!
Kyo said that,
and has been trying hard at both work and school.
It's really hard on her...
Kyo Yamada
Junior high third year student

This is the first chocolate that I've ever made for her..
HOW SHOULD I GIVE IT TO HER?
WOULD SAYING "THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING" BE WEIRD?

I'VE GOT IT!
VOOP
I'LL GO MEET KYO AT HER SCHOOL!!

IS SHE STILL IN CLASS?
Look
Look

OH!

KY--
UM

6

KYO
HAS SOMEONE SHE LIKES...
UM, WELL.
PLEASE READ THE LETTER INSIDE!
!
WELL, THEN
.....
OOH
SWEEP

Watch the path
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE SPACING OUT
OH, UH-UH...
ASU
ASU!
absent-minded...
KYO IS GOING TO HAVE SOMEONE SHE LIKES AFTER ALL....
IT'S NOTHING
REALLY?
8
AH
THAT MUST BE HEAVY, RIGHT?
BIG SIS WILL CARRY THAT FOR YOU
I'M OK I CAN CARRY THIS BY MYSELF...
NO WAY!
HERE, I'LL TAKE IT.

I SAID I'M OK!
WHACK
ASU...
I-I'M SORRY
I REALLY CAN DO IT ALL BY MYSELF
YOU GO SIT DOWN
WELL, IF YOU SAY SO
glance
I ended up
missing the opportunity to give her the chocolate

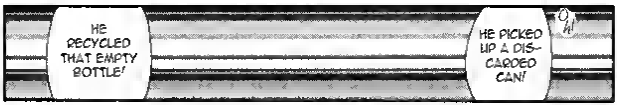
Next day
Sigh
IT'S THE BOY FROM YESTERDAY!!
. . . .
BA-BUMP
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE, I WONDER ---
THE BOY KYO LIKES---

Stern
I HAD BETTER CHECK HIM OUT!

10

HE HELPS THE ELDERLY WITH THEIR BAGS!
SEEMS TO HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS.
Stare
sneaky
sneaky

SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PERSON?!
GRIMACE
BUT, BUT I CAN'T JUST LET HIM HAVE KYO..


HE PICKED UP A DISCARDED CAN!
Oh!
HE RECYCLED THAT EMPTY BOTTLE!

I'M HOME
Sliiish
WHAT AM I DOING ---?
WELCOME BACK!
.....
Tee hee —♡
I FOUND IT!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE ACTING STRANGE YESTERDAY
THIS CHOCOLATE WAS THE REASON, HUH?
Sniff sniff
WHO ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE IT TO? MAYBE ME?
Yeah, right!♡

THUD
KYO, YOU DON'T NEED CHOCOLATE FROM SOMEONE LIKE ME, RIGHT?
WHAT?
I SAW YOU GIVE CHOCOLATE TO SOME BOY YESTERDAY
!
AH, YOU SAW THAT?!
FLUSH
SOMEDAY,
YOU'RE GOING TO GO OFF WITH THAT GUY
YOU WILL LEAVE ME.
CHOCOLATE FROM ME?
BAM!
YOU DON'T NEED IT!
ASU?!

?!
IT'S HIM!
HE'S HOLDING HANDS WITH THAT GIRL ALL LOVEY-DOVEY!
ASU!
CREAK
CREAK
I'M A BAD GIRL...
REALLY,
I SHOULD BE ENCOURAGING HER...
OH...
KYO!
STARTLED!
THANK GOODNESS SO YOU WERE HERE!
HUH?
KYO! YOU MUSTN'T LOOK OVER THERE!
WAVE
WAVE

WHAT ?!
THANK GOODNESS! IT SEEMS TO HAVE GONE OVER WELL!

Caw!
Caw!
Caw!

Blush...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I MISTOOK THE SITU-ATION LIKE THAT!
I'M SOOOO EMBAR-RASSED!

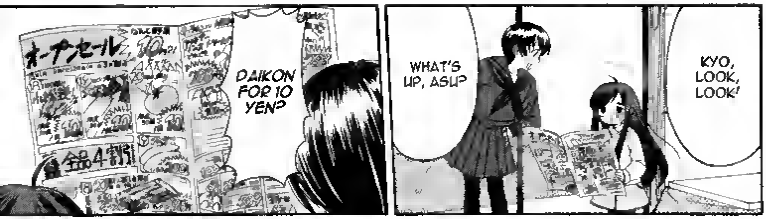
THAT CHOCO-LATE? A GIRL IN MY CLASS ASKED ME TO GIVE IT TO HIM FOR HER

I'M SORRY TO MAKE YOU CONFUSED
BUT IF YOU EVER GET WORRIED OVER SOMETHING SIMILAR AGAIN, REMEMBER THIS

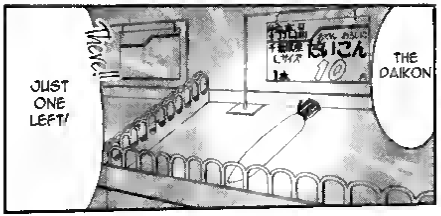
I WON'T LEAVE YOU BEHIND.
NEVER!
GOT IT...!

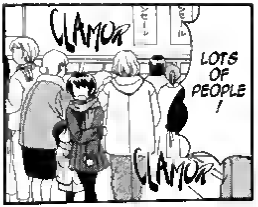
IT MAKES ME HAPPY THAT
YOU GOT ALL JEALOUS OVER ME, THOUGH ♡
SORRY! SORRY!
CANCEL THAT!
BUT—
WHO ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE THIS TO?
.....
!

MY MOST BELOVED PERSON!
WHO?!



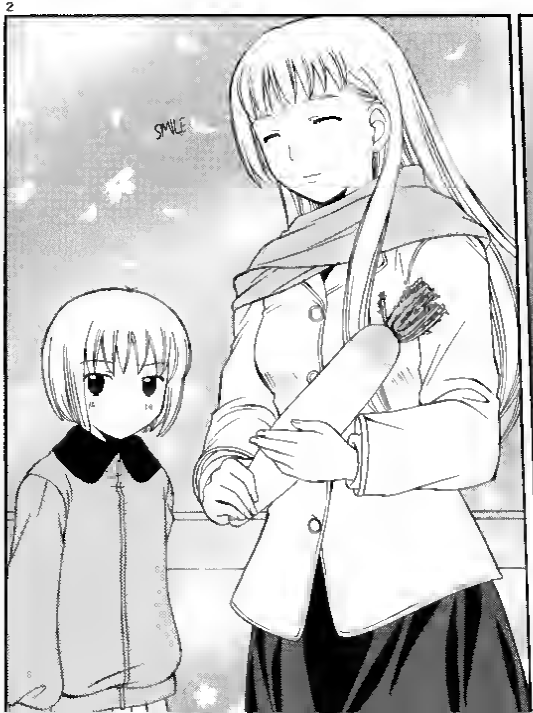
The 15th
The Sisters and the Bargain Sale

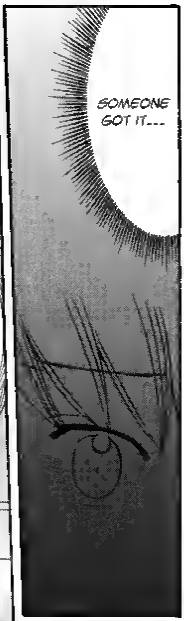

There!
JUST ONE LEFT!
THE DAIKON


CLAMOR
LOTS OF PEOPLE!
CLAMOR

SWISH

2


SMILE


SOMEONE GOT IT---

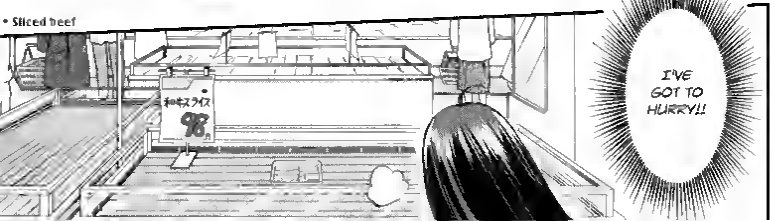
LET'S GO
OK
WE'RE NOW OUT OF DAIKON!
.....

WE WERE JUST A LITTLE LATE, HUH?
KYO! TOMORROW'S SALE ITEM IS MEAT!

MEAT?
I WONDER HOW MANY DAYS IT'S BEEN SINCE WE'VE HAD MEAT... ♡
LET'S TRY AGAIN TOMORROW!

4

• Sliced beef



GOT IT!
5
NO WAY
IT'S THE LAST ONE...
LET GO!
I GOT IT FIRST!
YANK YANK
THIS IS MINE!

DRIP
PLEASE

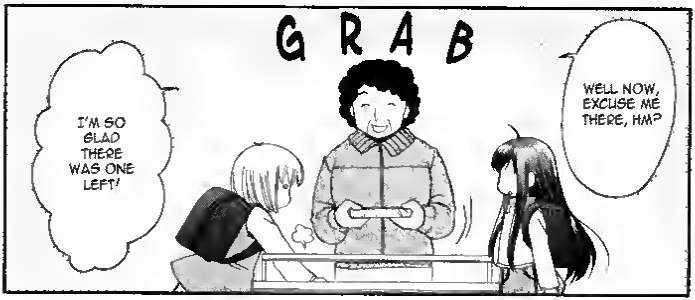
I'M NOT LETTING GO!
KYO IS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS!
YANK

!
MY SISTER WILL SCOLD ME
IF I DON'T BRING THIS HOME,

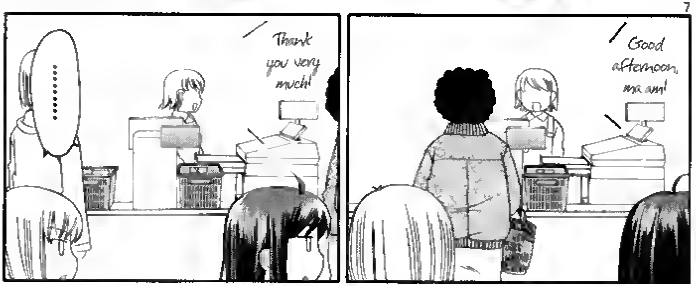
6

THE PERSON WITH HER YESTERDAY MUST HAVE BEEN HER SISTER...
DON'T CRY!

!!
SHE WAS FAKING IT!
WHOA?!
THE SALE ITEM IS MINE!


GRAB
I'M SO GLAD THERE WAS ONE LEFT!
WELL NOW, EXCUSE ME THERE, HM?

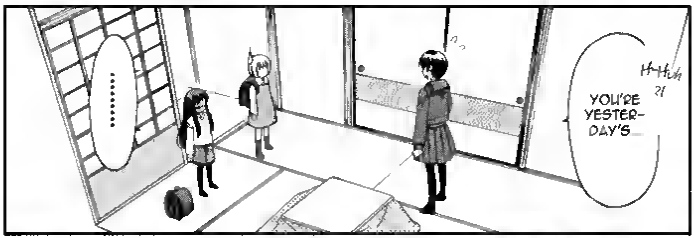
7

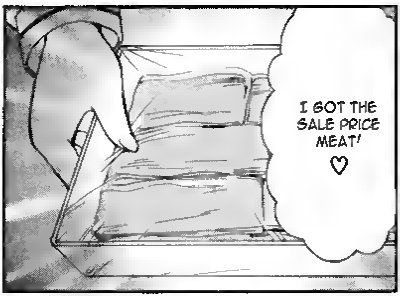

.....
Thank you very much!
Good afternoon, ma'am!

HAH!
IT'S SOLD OUT NOW!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?!
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
FAKING IT AGAIN...?
NO...
THESE ARE REAL TEARS.
YOU DIDN'T LET GO FAST ENOUGH "
SOB
SOB
IT'S 'CAUSE

YOU CAN SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW MY SISTER!
SHE'S A COMPLETE IDEALIST, SO SHE'S STRICT...
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'LL UNDER-STAND!
I CAN'T GO HOME NOW...
sob sob
IF YOU EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED, SHE'LL UNDER-STAND
SHE'S THAT STRICT OF A SISTER ---
REALLY DIF-FERENT FROM KYO.
I got it!
SINCE IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT I CAN'T RETURN HOME,
LET ME STAY AT YOUR HOUSE!
WHAT ?!

WELCOME HOME, ASU! ♡


.....
YOU'RE YESTER-DAY'S...


I GOT THE SALE PRICE MEAT! ♡

UM, KYO...
I COULDN'T BUY THE SALE ITEM AT THE STORE TODAY...
AH!

10

?
!!

KYO, PLEASE...
CAN YOU GIVE IT TO THIS GIRL?
.....

HUH ?
What about our dinner ?
SHE HAS A REALLY STRICT SISTER,
AND IF SHE DOESN'T BUY THE SALE ITEM, SHE CAN'T RETURN HOME.

11

KYO...
IT'S OK, ALREADY!
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S GOING TO JUST HAND IT OVER TO A STRANGER...

OK, HERE YOU GO
.....
WHY ARE YOU GIVING THIS UP SO EASY?
THIS IS YOUR DINNER, RIGHT?

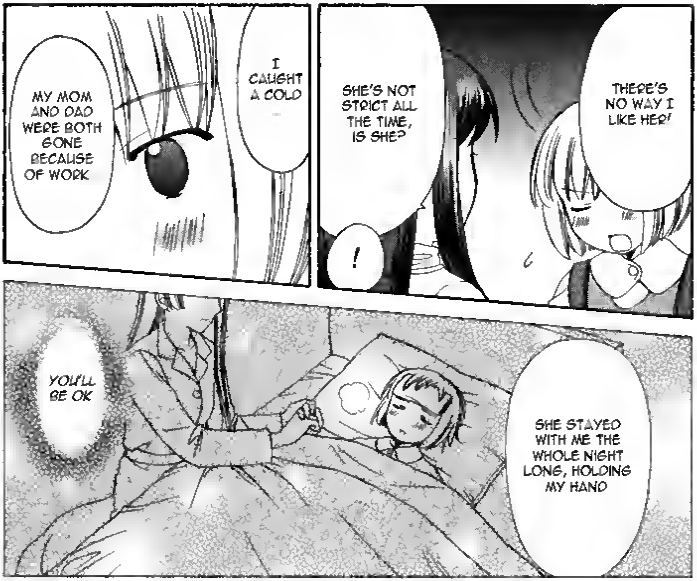
I CAN'T REFUSE AFTER BEING ASKED SO EARNESTLY
AND WHAT'S MORE, I BELIEVE IN ASU, ER, MY YOUNGER SISTER
THESE TWO BELIEVE IN EACH OTHER...

I'M NOT TRUSTED AT ALL.
WHEN I MAKE A MISTAKE, I JUST DISAP-POINT HER

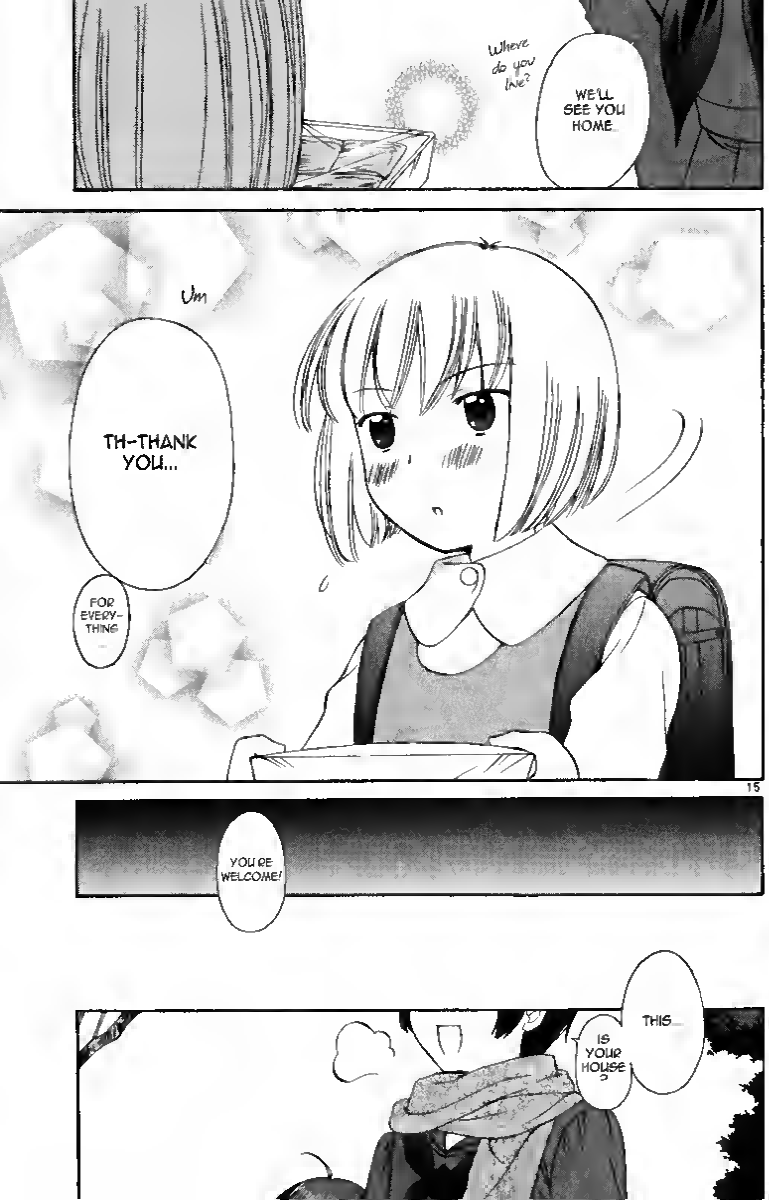
YOU REALLY LIKE
YOUR SISTER, HUH?

!
SINCE YOU LIKE HER SO MUCH, YOU DON'T WANT TO DISAP-POINT HER

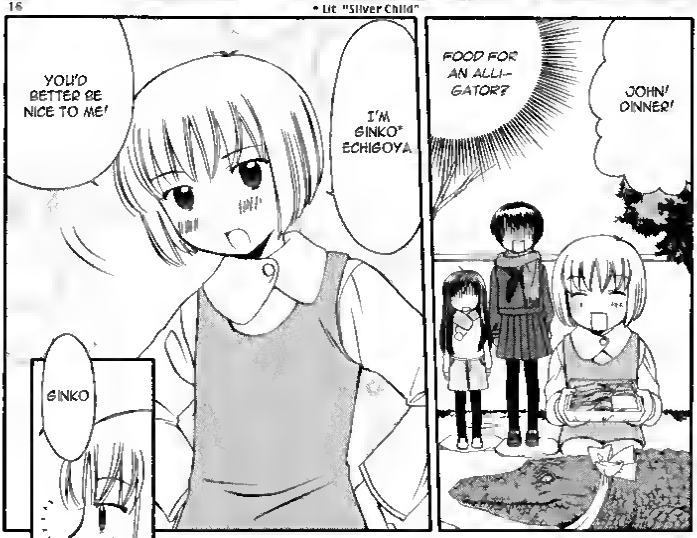
THIS IS SO DIFFERENT FROM MY HOME...


I CAUGHT A COLD
MY MOM AND DAD WERE BOTH GONE BECAUSE OF WORK
THERE'S NO WAY I LIKE HER!
SHE'S NOT STRICT ALL THE TIME, IS SHE?
!
SHE STAYED WITH ME THE WHOLE NIGHT LONG, HOLDING MY HAND
YOU'LL BE OK

Here!
YOU SHOULD GET BACK TO YOUR SISTER
HUH ?
IT MADE ME REALLY HAPPY.


Where do you live?
WE'LL SEE YOU HOME.
Um
TH-THANK YOU...
FOR EVERY-THING...
15
YOU'RE WELCOME!
THIS...
IS YOUR HOUSE?

16 • Lit. "Silver Child"



** Committee [Chairwoman] * Lit. "Golden Child"

I'M SORRY MY LITTLE SISTER HAS CAUSED YOU SUCH A FUSS
IT WAS NO FUSS
IF YOU COULDN'T BUY IT, YOU SHOULD JUST TELL ME STRAIGHT AWAY
I'M SORRY!
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
PLEASE BE FRIENDS WITH HER, OK?
YES

18

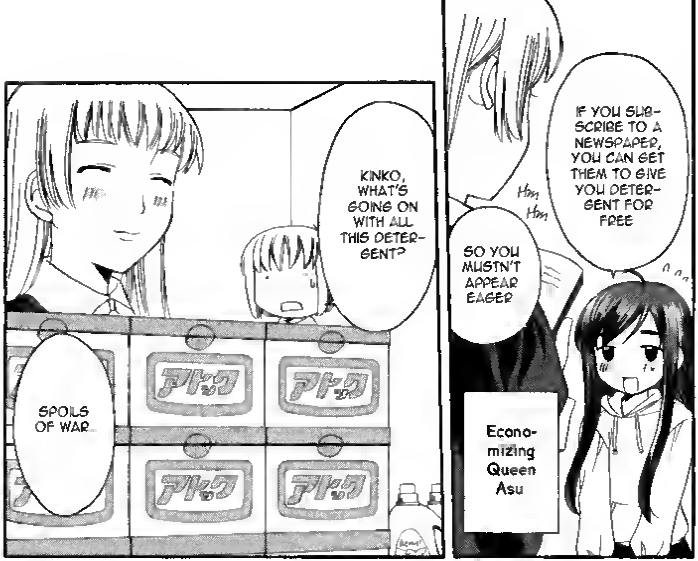
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE OK
WILL SHE BE OK?
NOOOOOOO
OK GINKO, COME WITH ME
Our dinner

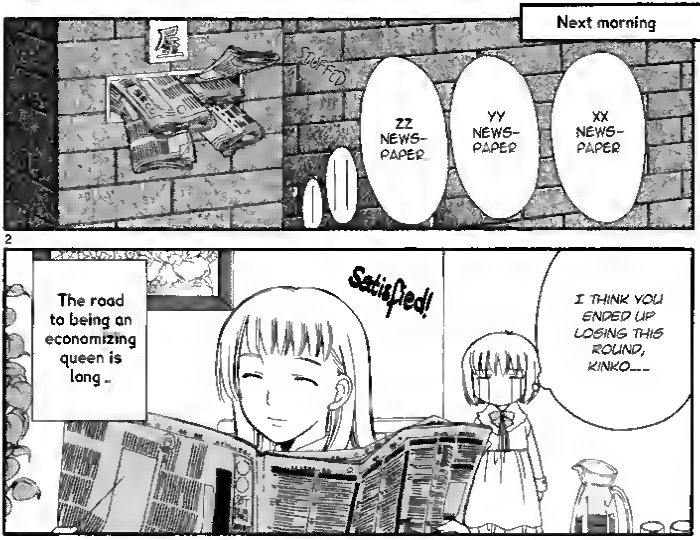
* Committee [Chairwomen]

The 16th Story of Rich Sisters?

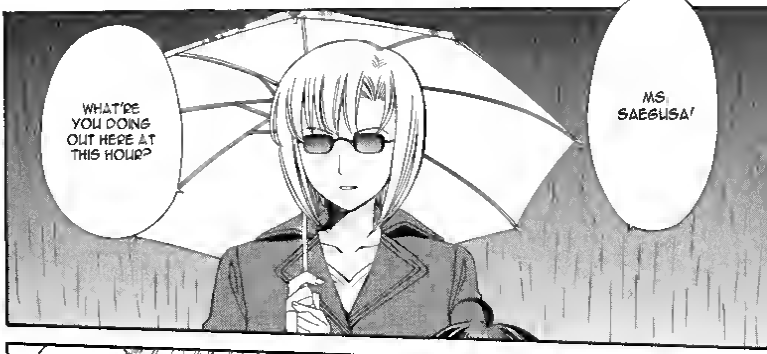
Kinko Echigoya, 15 years old.
Heir to the Echigoya Group which operates hotels, department stores, etc.
DON'T BUY THOSE.
THEY'RE SELLING TISSUES CHEAP!
KINKO!
Her hobby, economizing.
1
You could also call her a cheapskate.
GO DOWN TO THE STATION WHERE THEY'RE HANDING OUT POCKET TISSUES** AND TAKE THEM ALL.

** Companies commonly hand out free pocket tissues with their logos on them


Economizing Queen Asu
IF YOU SUBSCRIBE TO A NEWSPAPER, YOU CAN GET THEM TO GIVE YOU DETERGENT FOR FREE
Hmm Hmm
SO YOU MUSTN'T APPEAR EAGER
KINKO, WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ALL THIS DETERGENT?
SPOILS OF WAR...
アトック
アトック
アトック
アトック
アトック


Next morning
XX NEWSPAPER
YY NEWSPAPER
ZZ NEWSPAPER
屋
2
I THINK YOU ENDED UP LOSING THIS ROUND, KINKO...
Satisfied!
The road to being an economizing queen is long...

KYO IS LATE...
WAIT FOR ME-- WE CAN DO THE SHOPPING TOGETHER, OK?
ぎゅっ
THE 17TH
THE ONE WHO WAITS


MS. SAEGUSA!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING OUT HERE AT THIS HOUR?

YOU DON'T HAVE A CELL PHONE?
NOD.
LET'S GET YOU HOME FOR THE TIME BEING

2

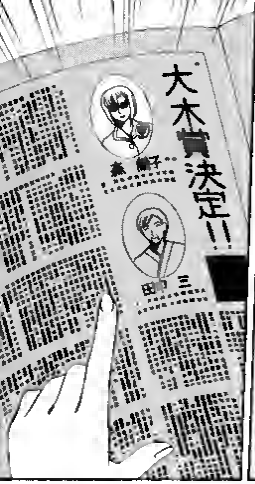
THANKS, BUT SHE'LL BE HERE!
I'LL JUST WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.

I'M WAITING FOR MY SISTER, BUT SHE HASN'T COME YET...
IT'S ALREADY 8 P.M. SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING FOR HER?
SINCE FIVE
YOU WAITED FOR THREE HOURS?!

IT'S OK. I HAVE NOTHING TO DO TODAY, ANYWAY.
OK, I'LL WAIT WITH YOU
!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO
.....
sigh...
!
ASU!!

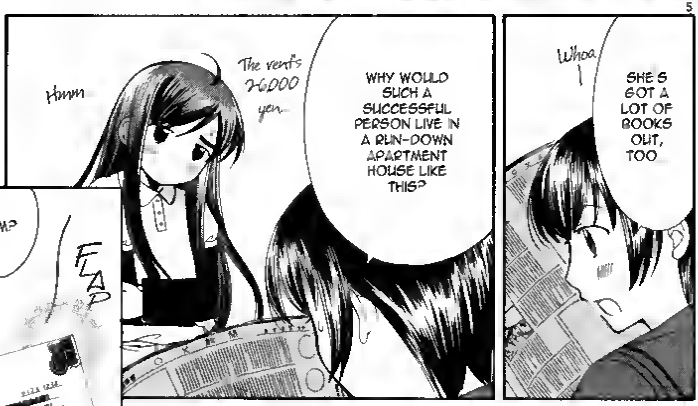
YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST CONTACT HER!
HEY!!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS, "HIS SISTER"!
IF YOU DON'T
HUH? MS. SAE-SUSA?
I'M SORRY-- THERE WAS A BUNCH OF STUFF GOING ON WITH THE NEWSPAPERS

HUH?
YOU COULD END UP MAKING HER WAIT FOR YEARS
JUST KIDDING ♡
See you!
Oh!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
4
I'M SORRY, OK, ASU? I WON'T MAKE YOU WAIT ANY MORE
sob
sob
IT'S OK
Sssh...

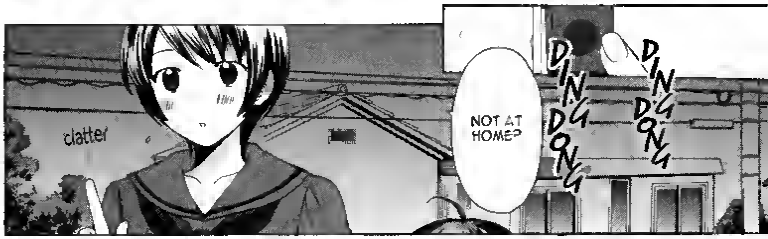

大木賞決定!!
森 蘭子
田 三

MS SAEGUSA IS IN THE NEWSPAPER!
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?
OH MY GOD!
OH MY GOD!
WHAT ?!

SO SHE'S A NOVELIST
OOKI? THE NOVEL AWARD?


Hmm
The rent's 26000 yen.
WHY WOULD SUCH A SUCCESSFUL PERSON LIVE IN A RUN-DOWN APARTMENT HOUSE LIKE THIS?
Whoa !
SHE'S GOT A LOT OF BOOKS OUT, TOO
HM?
FLAP
AIR MAIL
JAPAN

THIS POST-CARD ?
OH... WE GOT MS SAEGUSA'S MAIL BY MISTAKE
IT'S A PRETTY PICTURE POST-CARD...
I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YESTER-DAY,
SO LET'S GO GIVE IT TO HER!
YEAH!


clatter
NOT AT HOME?
DING DONG
DING DONG

CLATTER
R-RUBBL
CRASH
WHUMP
CLOMP

KLIK
IT'S UNLOCKED!
WE'RE COMING IN!
TMP TMP
ARE YOU OK?!
Messy~~~~
?!

7

HE-
HELP
MS. SAEGUSA!
Euw
A MOUNTAIN OF GARBAGE?!

My goodness
THANKS FOR SAVING ME THERE!!
IT WAS SO NICE OF YOU TO CLEAN THE PLACE UP YOU EVEN MADE DINNER!
IT'S OK
UM
WHY DID YOU LET THINGS GET LIKE THIS?
HM?
Ha Ha Ha!
I'VE REALLY BEEN STRUGGLING WITH MY WORK LATELY,
SO I JUST KINDA FORGOT
KINDA ---?
Oh!
SO YOU'RE A NOVELIST, HUH, MS SAEGUSA?
We saw the paper

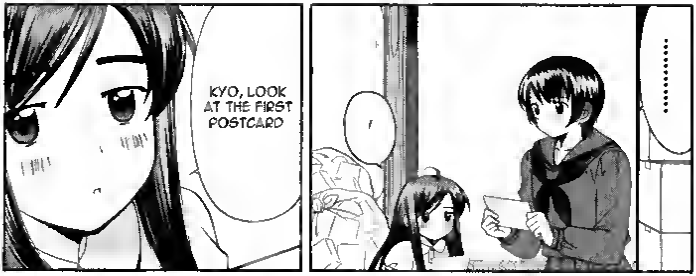
9

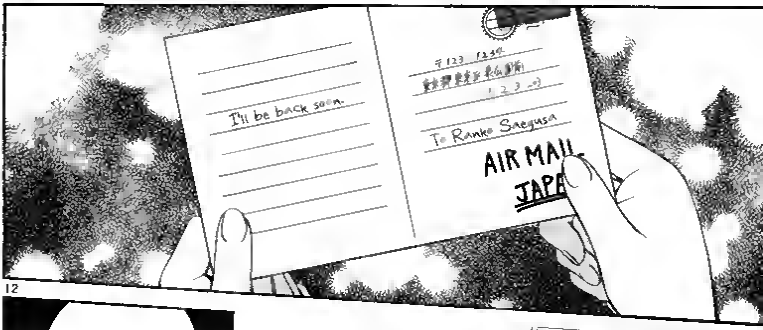
• Ryuko (「Fashion」) by Ranka MORI

Sugoi
I'll pay you for your troubles ♡
I'M PLANNING ON MOVING SOON
I WANT YOU TO HELP PACK
YOU'RE GOING TO BE MOVING ?
WILL YOU MISS ME?
Clothes go in boxes books go here.
THANK YOU ♡
YOU CAN JUST TOSS ALL THE GARBAGE
OK OK OK OK OK
LET'S HURRY UP AND GET STARTED, OK?

WHAT IS IT, ASU?
KYO

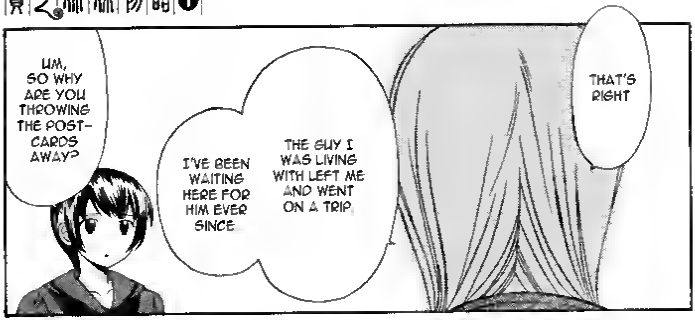
Oh, that's right!
THIS CAME TO US BY MISTAKE
HERE YOU ARE
!
THIS IS THE ONLY AREA THAT'S BEEN KEPT CLEAN...
OH... THESE PICTURE POST-CARDS!
HUH?
.....
THROW IT AWAY.
BUT IT'S SOME-THING IMPOR-TANT, RIGHT?
IT'S FINE! THROW THEM ALL AWAY!


KYO, LOOK AT THE FIRST POSTCARD
.....


I'll be back soon.
To Ranko Saegusa
AIR MAIL

MS. SAEGUSA, ARE YOU WAITING FOR THE PERSON WHO WROTE THESE CARDS?

IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY,
THESE HAVE BEEN SENT ONCE A YEAR.
COULD IT BE...


UM, SO WHY ARE YOU THROWING THE POST-CARDS AWAY?
I'VE BEEN WAITING HERE FOR HIM EVER SINCE
THE GUY I WAS LIVING WITH LEFT ME AND WENT ON A TRIP
THAT'S RIGHT

DON'T YOU THINK THAT WAITING FOR HIM ON JUST THAT IS A LITTLE MUCH?
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE IS RIGHT NOW
THE ONLY CONTACT I HAVE WITH HIM IS A POSTCARD ONCE A YEAR
THAT GUY DOESN'T CARE FOR ME AT ALL ANYMORE
GUENCH...

.....

BUT
IF IT WERE ME
I WOULD STILL WAIT
BECAUSE I BELIEVE HE WILL CERTAINLY COME BACK
MS SAEGUSA, PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS POSTCARD
HE HE
YEAH, YOU WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT
Happy Birthday!
To Ranko Saegusa
AIR MAIL
JAPAN
.....!

EVERY YEAR, A POSTCARD ON MY BIRTHDAY

I GUESS HE HASN'T COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME..
THAT FOOL
BIRTHDAYS ARE NOTHING TO CELEBRATE ANYMORE
BUT ---
IT MIGHT BE---
CLACK
!!!
DING DONG
IT'S GOTTA BE THE POSTCARD GUY COMING HOME!
NO WAY! THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN!

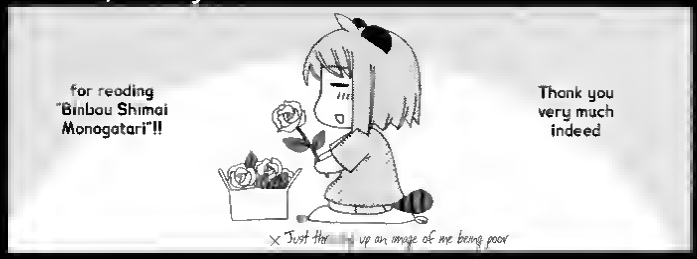
WO
OM

M-MR HAYASHI
I HEAR YER LEAVIN'
WHEN DO YOU INTEND ON BEIN' OUT?

HA HA
.....
I'VE DECIDED AGAINST MOVING
WHAT?

I'VE WAITED THIS LONG,
I CAN WAIT A LITTLE LONGER, I GUESS!
BINBOU SHIMAI MONOGATARI
VOLUME 1 - END

Postscript Manga



So I started with a small page count.
I'm sure I surprised my editor too
PLEASE LET ME HAVE EIGHT PAGES...
sigh
HOW MANY PAGES CAN YOU DO?
Editor
Sorry, sorry!
When this series was accepted, I was doing four-panel mangas for another publication

THIS MANGA HAS BEEN POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THESE PEOPLE

My wonderful assistants

- Pam Nakajima
- Ayako Wada

Special Thanks

- Kojita
- Jun Ikeda
- Sogetsu Kamiya

(titles omitted in random order)

And.

Mr N my editor-in-charge
Mr K the assistant editor-in-chief ♡

I am sorry to always be putting everyone to trouble.

× Bonus Art

A picture of them wearing frilly waitress outfits that you won't see in the main story. I added the glasses for the heck of it

Like the title, and how the names have kanji*

It was from before this story was approved, so there will be things that are different.

OK, the story on the next page is a sample four-page manga for "Mini Trial GX."

* Chinese characters as opposed to kana the Japanese syllabus

STRONG, POOR, BEAUTIFUL
HWOOO
WE'RE IN FOR IT...
AGAIN?
Kyo (今日) Yamada, 15 years old.
Asu (明日) Yamada, 9 years old.

* A low table with an electric heat source underneath, used for keeping warm in the winter.

** Yamada

I MADE SOUP TONIGHT
YOU'LL WARM UP IF YOU EAT IT
Steam
I'VE GOT TO PROTECT ASU AT LEAST!
WE'RE OUT OF HEATING OIL...
3
IT'S SO GOOD
THE ONE BEING PRO-TECTED
ASU...
MIGHT JUST BE ME...

HUG
IF WE DO THIS, WE'LL BE EVEN WARMER!
We are happy today, too!
A winter coat for two! ♡
THE TWO OF US WILL KEEP ON FIGHTING!
STRONG POOR BEAUTIFUL | END